Second Regular Session Seventy-second General Assembly STATE OF COLORADO

BILL E

LLS NO. 20-0397.02 Michael Dohr x4347

SENATE BILL

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Gardner and Gonzales, Fields, Lundeen

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Michaelson Jenet and Van Winkle, Beckman, Sirota

Senate Committees

House Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 CONCERNING CREATING A MULTI-AGENCY WORKING GROUP TO
102 ADDRESS SCHOOL SAFETY.

Bill Summary

(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at http://leg.colorado.gov/.)

School Safety Committee. The bill creates the Colorado interagency working group on school safety. The working group consists of 14 voting members, including 4 legislative members. The mission of the working group is to enhance school safety through the cost-effective use of public resources. The working group shall:

• Study and implement recommendations of the state

- auditor's report regarding school safety released September 2019;
- Study the use of lockdown drills, including their effectiveness and any harm they do to the participating students;
- Identify school safety best practices and then rank the effectiveness of the best practices;
- Identify actions to improve transparency, reduce duplication, improve services, and improve communication;
- Create minimum school safety standards;
- Provide school risk assessments and training;
- Develop standardized language for describing threats to schools and the procedures to be followed in investigating a threat:
- Create a list of approved school safety resource vendors and tools;
- Recommend minimum standards or procedural guidelines for behavioral threat assessment tools:
- Report on a monthly basis aggregated behavioral and risk assessment data;
- Create an annual report of findings and recommendations, including evidence-based analysis and data; and
- Study and evaluate the implemented changes.

The working group may contract with a consultant to optimize the alignment and effectiveness of the school safety efforts in Colorado and identify evidence-based best practices. The general assembly may appropriate money to the working group for a consultant, and the working group can accept gifts, grants, and donations.

The bill repeals the working group on September 1, 2023.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:

SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, add article 17 to title

ARTICLE 17

Colorado Interagency Working Group on School Safety

22-17-101. Legislative declaration. (1) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

FINDS AND DECLARES THAT:

(a) Ensuring the safety of students, teachers, and other

8

-2- DRAFT

1	EMPLOYEES WHILE AT SCHOOL IS A PARAMOUNT CONCERN FOR THE
2	CITIZENS OF COLORADO;
3	(b) Improving the effective administration of school
4	SAFETY PROGRAMS AND FUNDING IS CRITICAL TO PROVIDING SAFE
5	SCHOOLS; AND
6	(c) Maintaining school safety through the most
7	COST-EFFECTIVE USE OF LIMITED STATE RESOURCES IS IN THE INTEREST OF
8	THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF COLORADO.
9	(2) Therefore, the general assembly declares that a
10	WORKING GROUP COMPRISED OF STATE AND LOCAL AGENCY OFFICIALS
11	MUST BE FORMED TO INCREASE COORDINATION OF SCHOOL SAFETY
12	PROGRAMS ACROSS STATE GOVERNMENT AND ANNUALLY REPORT TO THE
13	GOVERNOR, THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, AND THE
14	PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE ON THEIR ACTIVITIES.
15	22-17-102. Colorado interagency working group on school
16	safety - creation - membership - operation - immunity. $(1)(a)$ There
17	IS HEREBY CREATED IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION THE COLORADO
18	INTERAGENCY WORKING GROUP ON SCHOOL SAFETY, REFERRED TO IN THIS
19	ARTICLE 17 AS THE "WORKING GROUP". THE WORKING GROUP HAS THE
20	POWERS AND DUTIES SPECIFIED IN THIS ARTICLE 17.
21	(b) The working group shall exercise its powers and
22	PERFORM ITS DUTIES AND FUNCTIONS AS IF THE SAME WERE TRANSFERRED
23	TO THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION BY A TYPE 2 TRANSFER, AS SUCH
24	TRANSFER IS DEFINED IN THE "ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANIZATION ACT OF
25	1968", ARTICLE 1 OF TITLE 24.
	1700 , ARTICLE I OF THEE 24.
26	(2) The working group consists of fourteen voting

-3- DRAFT

1	(a) THE COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION, OR HIS OR HER DESIGNEE,
2	WHO SHALL SERVE AS THE CHAIR OF THE WORKING GROUP;
3	(b) The executive director of the department of public
4	SAFETY, OR HIS OR HER DESIGNEE;
5	(c) The executive director of the department of public
6	HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT, OR HIS OR HER DESIGNEE;
7	(d) The executive director of the department of human
8	SERVICES, OR HIS OR HER DESIGNEE;
9	(e) The attorney general, or his or her designee, who
10	SHALL SERVE AS THE VICE-CHAIR OF THE WORKING GROUP;
11	(f) THE DIRECTOR OF THE SCHOOL SAFETY RESOURCE CENTER;
12	(g) THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR:
13	(I) A SCHOOL DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT WHO SERVES AN URBAN
14	OR SUBURBAN SCHOOL DISTRICT;
15	(II) A SCHOOL DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT WHO SERVES A RURAL
16	SCHOOL DISTRICT;
17	(III) A CHIEF OF POLICE; AND
18	(IV) A COUNTY SHERIFF; AND
19	(h) The following legislative members:
20	(I) A MEMBER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES APPOINTED BY
21	THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES;
22	(II) A MEMBER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES APPOINTED BY
23	THE MINORITY LEADER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES;
24	(III) A MEMBER OF THE SENATE APPOINTED BY THE PRESIDENT OF
25	THE SENATE; AND
26	(IV) A MEMBER OF THE SENATE APPOINTED BY THE MINORITY
27	LEADED OF THE SENATE

-4- DRAFT

1	(3) The members of the working group serve without
2	COMPENSATION BUT MAY BE REIMBURSED FOR ANY ACTUAL AND
3	NECESSARY TRAVEL EXPENSES INCURRED IN THE PERFORMANCE OF THEIR
4	DUTIES PURSUANT TO THIS ARTICLE 17.
5	(4) The working group shall meet at least once per
6	QUARTER TO REVIEW INFORMATION NECESSARY FOR MAKING
7	RECOMMENDATIONS.
8	(5) THE WORKING GROUP MAY CONTRACT WITH A CONSULTANT TO
9	OPTIMIZE THE ALIGNMENT AND EFFECTIVENESS OF THE SCHOOL SAFETY
10	EFFORTS IN COLORADO AND IDENTIFY EVIDENCE-BASED BEST PRACTICES.
11	THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY MAY APPROPRIATE MONEY TO THE WORKING
12	GROUP FOR A CONSULTANT IF REQUESTED BY THE WORKING GROUP.
13	(6) Members of the working group, employees, and
14	CONSULTANTS ARE IMMUNE FROM SUIT IN ANY CIVIL ACTION BASED UPON
15	ANY OFFICIAL ACT PERFORMED IN GOOD FAITH PURSUANT TO THIS ARTICLE
16	17.
17	22-17-103. Duties of the working group - mission. (1) The
18	MISSION OF THE WORKING GROUP IS TO ENHANCE SCHOOL SAFETY
19	THROUGH THE COST-EFFECTIVE USE OF PUBLIC RESOURCES. THE WORK OF
20	THE WORKING GROUP WILL FOCUS ON EVIDENCE-BASED BEST PRACTICES.
21	(2) THE WORKING GROUP SHALL:
22	(a) STUDY AND IMPLEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE STATE
23	AUDITOR'S REPORT REGARDING SCHOOL SAFETY RELEASED SEPTEMBER
24	2019;
25	(b) STUDY THE USE OF LOCKDOWN DRILLS, INCLUDING THEIR
26	EFFECTIVENESS AND ANY HARM THEY DO TO THE PARTICIPATING
27	STUDENTS;

-5- DRAFT

1	(c) IDENTIFY EVIDENCE-BASED SCHOOL SAFETY BEST PRACTICES
2	AND THEN RANK THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE BEST PRACTICES;
3	(d) Identify actions to improve transparency, reduce
4	DUPLICATION, IMPROVE SERVICES, AND IMPROVE COMMUNICATION;
5	(e) Create minimum school safety standards;
6	(f) Provide school risk assessments and training;
7	$(g)\ Developstandardizedlanguagefordescribingthreats$
8	TO SCHOOLS AND THE PROCEDURES TO BE FOLLOWED IN INVESTIGATING A
9	THREAT;
10	(h) Create a list of approved school safety resource
11	VENDORS AND TOOLS;
12	(i) RECOMMEND MINIMUM STANDARDS OR PROCEDURAL
13	GUIDELINES FOR BEHAVIORAL THREAT ASSESSMENT TOOLS;
14	(j) REPORT ON A MONTHLY BASIS AGGREGATED BEHAVIORAL AND
15	RISK ASSESSMENT DATA;
16	(k) Create an annual report of findings and
17	RECOMMENDATIONS, INCLUDING EVIDENCE-BASED ANALYSIS AND DATA;
18	AND
19	(1) STUDY AND EVALUATE THE OUTCOMES OF THE IMPLEMENTED
20	CHANGES.
21	(3) The working group may use available resources,
22	MODALITIES, AND NONMEMBERS FROM INTERESTED MEMBERS OF THE
23	COMMUNITY TO FOCUS ON SPECIFIC SUBJECT MATTERS.
24	(4) The school safety resource center serves as the
25	${\tt CLEARINGHOUSE} \ {\tt FOR} \ {\tt ALL} \ {\tt MATERIALS} \ {\tt PRODUCED} \ {\tt BY} \ {\tt THE} \ {\tt WORKING} \ {\tt GROUP}.$
26	(5) THE DIVISION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF
27	PUBLIC SAFETY, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION,

-6- DRAFT

1	SHALL PROVIDE RESOURCES FOR DATA COLLECTION, RESEARCH, ANALYSIS,
2	AND PUBLICATION OF THE WORKING GROUP'S FINDINGS AND REPORTS.
3	22-17-104. Colorado working group on school safety cash fund
4	- created - gifts, grants, and donations. (1) THE DEPARTMENT OF
5	EDUCATION AND THE WORKING GROUP ARE AUTHORIZED TO ACCEPT GIFTS,
6	GRANTS, OR DONATIONS, INCLUDING IN-KIND DONATIONS FROM PRIVATE
7	OR PUBLIC SOURCES, FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS ARTICLE 17. ALL PRIVATE
8	AND PUBLIC MONEY RECEIVED THROUGH GIFTS, GRANTS, OR DONATIONS
9	BY THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION OR BY THE WORKING GROUP MUST BE
10	TRANSMITTED TO THE STATE TREASURER, WHO SHALL CREDIT THE SAME
11	TO THE COLORADO WORKING GROUP ON SCHOOL SAFETY CASH FUND,
12	WHICH FUND IS CREATED IN THE STATE TREASURY AND REFERRED TO IN
13	THIS ARTICLE 17 AS THE "CASH FUND". THE STATE TREASURER SHALL
14	INVEST ANY MONEY IN THE CASH FUND NOT EXPENDED FOR THE PURPOSES
15	OF THIS ARTICLE 17 AS PROVIDED IN SECTION 24-36-113. ALL INTEREST
16	AND INCOME DERIVED FROM THE INVESTMENT AND DEPOSIT OF MONEY IN
17	THE CASH FUND MUST BE CREDITED TO THE CASH FUND. ANY UNEXPENDED
18	AND UNENCUMBERED MONEY REMAINING IN THE CASH FUND AT THE END
19	OF ANY FISCAL YEAR REMAINS IN THE CASH FUND AND SHALL NOT BE
20	CREDITED OR TRANSFERRED TO THE GENERAL FUND OR ANY OTHER FUND.
21	(2) The department of education is not required to solicit
22	GIFTS, GRANTS, OR DONATIONS FROM ANY SOURCE FOR THE PURPOSES OF
23	THIS ARTICLE 17.
24	22-17-105. Repeal of article. This article 17 is repealed,
25	EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 1, 2023. BEFORE THE REPEAL, THE DEPARTMENT
26	OF REGULATORY AGENCIES SHALL REVIEW THE WORKING GROUP AS
27	DESCRIBED IN SECTION 2-3-1203.

-7- DRAFT

1	SECTION 2. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 2-3-1203, add
2	(14)(a)(XII) as follows:
3	2-3-1203. Sunset review of advisory committees - legislative
4	declaration - definition - repeal. (14) (a) The following statutory
5	authorizations for the designated advisory committees are scheduled for
6	repeal on September 1, 2023:
7	(XII) THE COLORADO INTERAGENCY WORKING GROUP ON SCHOOL
8	SAFETY CREATED IN SECTION 22-17-102.
9	SECTION 3. Safety clause. The general assembly hereby finds,
10	determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
11	preservation of the public peace, health, or safety.

-8- DRAFT